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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 UPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-11
AID-20 RSR-01 /106 W
115924

P R 211035Z AUG 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8993
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMCONSUL DANANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 13461

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUB: PRIME MINISTER COMMUNIQUE ON MINH CHARGES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Jean Iguel DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐ or XDS☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☑
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS VERBATIM OFFICIAL ENGLISH VERSION OF PRESS COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, AFTERNOON AUGUST 21:

2. BEGIN TEXT THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES:

3. ON AUGUST 20, 1971 WHILE IT FILED AN APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, THE DUONG VAN MINH-HO VAN MINH TICKET AT THE SAME TIME MADE PUBLIC WHAT IT CALLED TOP SECRET DOCUMENTS, WHICH ALLEGEDLY THE GOVERNMENT HAD USED TO DIRECT THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION IN ORGANIZING FRAUDULENT ELECTIONS AND HARASSING THE VOTERS AND CAMPAIGN WORKERS OF THE OTHER TICKETS.

4. THE GOVERNMENT COMPLETELY REJECTS THE UNFOUNDED CRITICISMS CITED ABOVE AND CONSIDERS THEM AS ACTIONS AIMING AT MISGUIDING PUBLIC OPINION, INSIDE AS WELL AS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, CAUSING CONFUSION AMONG THE PUBLIC AND CREATING A

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BAD IMPRESSION FOR THE COMING ELECTIONS.

5. ONCE AGAIN, THE GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS ITS DETERMINATION AND ITS EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE CORRECT, HONEST AND IMPARTIAL ELECTIONS IN RESPECT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF THE NATION. TRAN THIEN KHIEM, SAIGON, AUGUST 21, 1971. END TEXT. BUNKER